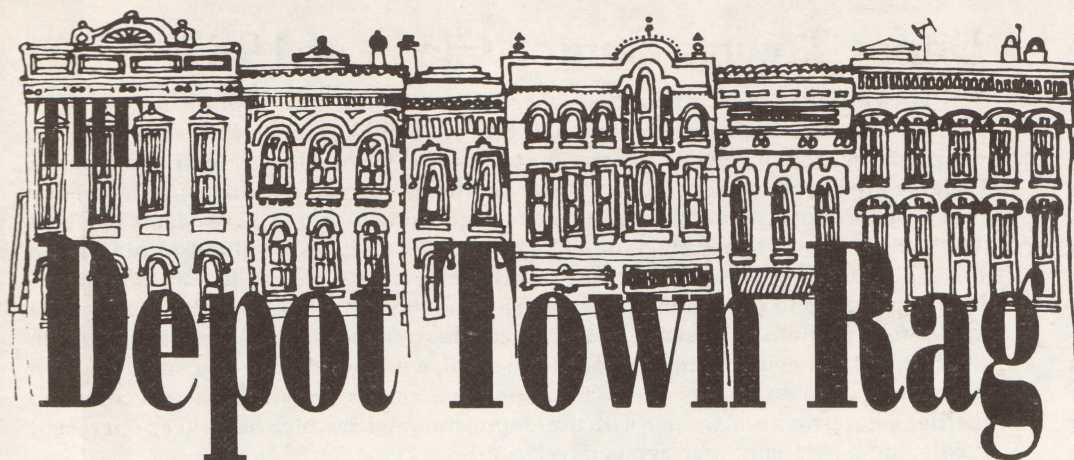




## OCTOBER MEETINGS:

- Merchants - Thursday, 13, 7:30 p.m.  
 Association - Thursday, 20, 7:30 p.m.  
 Foundation - Thursday, 27, 8:00 p.m.  
 ...all in the Caboose

A PUBLICATION OF THE DEPOT TOWN ASSOCIATION, INC.

The Caboose, 400 Market Place, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

Ring, Ring, Ring.

Hello! Conrail.

Is this the Conrail office at Willow Run?

Yes, it is. May I help you?

I hope so. I thought you'd want to know that your crossing signal in Depot Town isn't working?

Let me look at the board. Oh! Well, that's because there is not any train coming. Do you mean the gate doesn't lower and the bell doesn't ring, or what?

Oh, No! They work when the train comes through, but then they stop.

Well, that's what it is supposed to do. When the signal stops, the city traffic lights take over and permits cars to cross the tracks.

Oh, Really? Is that a new policy? Last summer the gate and bell stayed in action for weeks at a time. One time the bell rang continually for nearly two days before stopping. Then it started up and ran for another day.

We knew about that. You see, when it gets so very hot, the switching mechanism separates as the train crosses and causes the signal to run until we come down and replace the switch. You shouldn't have that problem any more, now that the weather has cooled off.

Oh, I'm not complaining. We saw the biggest crowds in history last summer with all the cars waiting for hours to cross the tracks. I was just wondering if you could leave the switch out all winter, too.

Click.!

DOWNTOWN SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP...is now easier to find than down Willow Run.

No sooner did we exclaim about how difficult it is to find Depot Town from other parts of Our Town, than Washtenaw County overcame City/Township ho-hums and decided to pave the rut-ridden North river Street from Clark Road south to High Cemetery. Local governments long avoided responsibility for this penetrator route into the City with esslesiastical aplomb. Ypsilanti Township holds the Catholic cemetery side of the street, while other denominations are buried on the City side. Neither wished to take on the whole paving job to the burial grounds, and, with traditional refusal to cooperate with the other, the road became a monument to City/Township do-nothing-togetherness.

Now, thanks to the County's abilities to meet the demands of the people, not only will funerals travel at a more stately pace, but northern Michigan finally has comfortable access to this old block.

Many of our Ann Arbor clientele avoid the strip city entrances and travel to us by way of Geddes Road. Their view of Ypsilanti is unique: Rather than fight the visual blight of fast food land, they glide past cornfields and wood lots enjoying magnificent river-side vistas, turn south to ascend the hill between two picturesque cemeteries as they ente the City's northern residential boundaries. The first stop affords a view of several of the district's grandest historical edifices and then, after passing the mayor's home, the first commercial view of Ypsilanti is Depot Town's stately and colorful Masonic Block, seen through the fruit trees in front of the MCRR depot. Under these visual conditions, no one minds having to stop and wait for a train crossing. It only adds to the symphony of sound and light which is Depot Town.

We invite those who have not experienced this entrance to finish a fall color tour thusly. Welcome to Downtown Superior Township.

the depot town eclectic...is the name of the exhibit to be featured at Henry Ford Community College art galleries beginning October 17th and running through November. The unique show will include many of the block's practicing artists as well as those parts of the neighborhood considered "artistic" by some and just "neighborly" by others. At last, our district's style and panache have been capsulized into one moment in time and put on display for the rest of the world to see what that phenomenon called "Depot Town" is really all about.

# APPLE HARVEST

"OCTOBER 7, 8, 9, 1983"

## Apples of our Eye:

- CBC/Jaycette Cidermill Casino
- Apple Harvest Queen
- "Applesauce" by Ypsi Players
- 5K & 10K runs through Depot Town
- "Cliff Dwellers" home tour



## The Story We Didn't Have to Print: (PCB's Contaminate Depot Town)

Everyone in the block knew about the Edison transformer blowing up during August's Heritage Festival and those who missed it were able to catch up through the article and picture in the YPSILANTI PRESS. Other than a general Festival recap piece last RAG, most figured that was it... until we saw the mid-September evening news of highly toxic PCB's being spread around the alleys of Detroit where other Edison equipment had erupted during the summer heat wave. Could we possibly have been serving beer, pop and hot dogs laden with PCB? Edison pulled out the burned equipment and replaced it with new, higher powered transformers on the pole behind the Follett House - right next to Ypsilanti's principal fresh produce outlet: The Farmers' Market.

Once the problem was known, we called the Edison Company and they were just as responsive as on the night of the explosion. A high official with Edison's Ann Arbor office said, "Most of those old PCB-laden transformers were cleaned out and filled with mineral water a year ago, but we'll check it out and be sure." Top officials from Edison's Detroit office called, too, and sent the lab team to the site at once. Twice through the lab test proved the site was absolutely clean of PCB contamination. No problem. No Love Canal in Depot Town. Thanks, Detroit Edison.

Now we understand that the main PCB problems come from capacitors. Check out the neighborhood once more, please, and assure us again that our facility is completely up-to-date.

## It's Story Time at the Caboose

The Ypsilanti Players will begin a series of story-telling sessions for children at the Association's one - hundred - year - old Caboose headquarters during October 8's Apple Harvest weekend and continue weekly through the fall and winter seasons. This old-time cultural event is free to all interested young folks and the Players invite interested adults to visit and join the folk tradition of oral history, fantasy, yarn-spinning and just plain lie-telling. Join them in and around the Caboose from nine until eleven each Saturday morning.

Anyone wishing to volunteer to try their skills at the art are advised to contact Bonni-Rosen-Fine at...AND EVERYTHING NICE. Bonni was recently elected president of the Players only one year after her retirement from the same job. Welcome back, Ypsilanti players. you'll always be welcome in Depot Town.

## Depot Town's Senior Class of 1983

THE RAG has made a lot of fuss these last six year about all the new folk who have come here to open new businesses and rehabilitate old buildings and we've recognized the efforts of the several second generation businesses in the block. With this month's issue we are happy to begin recognition of another group of brave and loyal neighbors: that large group of senior citizens who have been here all along as residents of Depot Town. In an age when grandparents fly off to Arizona for golf outings or hide out in Florida at the shuffleboard court, our several seniors have chosen to stay in their life-long community to revel in their golden years among the people and places they have known for a lifetime. Tucked back in a quiet side street house or in cozy apartments in the commercial district, these Depot towners give us the security and solidity which every real neighborhood needs. These grandpersons to the block have become the district's statesmen and women with the long-distance view which helps keep our recent hustle and bustle in proper perspective.

In coming months we will see a daring expose' of HAROLD JONES, the crusty curmudgeon from the end of Photo Street, who starts off each morning with the same cheery greeting to his neighbors: "What's going on here?" We'll also interview this year's hobo queen again and delve into 76-year-old EMMA HALL's rich past in this old block. Harold and Emma are well known to most RAG readers, and they'll be easy pickings for our first focus, but watch for a piece on GENE and HEAVY from the duplex across from the garage on Ninde Street. FRIEDA AMMAN will soon be known to folks outside her own building when old friends bring that gracious woman's colorful past into the present. ESTELLE SUTHERLAND is back on the block again running the Farmers' Market coffee shop with her friend twice each week. Her stories of the old days in Depot Town will reach a whole new generation of RAG readers. MARGE DICKS is another story teller in the old tradition and will spill it all in these pages. Most of the aforementioned pieces are being researched now by their friends and neighbors and will be shaped and molded into our usual RAG format in the coming winter months. This sneak preview does not even hope to be all-inclusive. Drop a note to the Caboose with suggestions of even more subjects for this new feature. Last summer's memoirs of the railroad yard from seventy years ago by East Sider ILENE SARI was the impetus to which so many responded and opened up the possibilities of so many rich stories, interviews and anecdotes from and about that generation which still holds the history of Our Town in their active and prolific memories.

Younger associates are encouraged to take notes and share them with THE RAG. Many are on their way to completion now and will be featured the rest of this winter as DEPOT TOWN'S SENIOR CLASS!

**TED'S AUTO ELECTRIC**  
307 N. River Street

\*\*\*\*\*  

**THE HEALTH EMPORIUM**  
 "To your good health"  
 FOR YOUR  
 NUTRITIONAL NEEDS  
 19 E. CROSS 485-2711  
 DEPOT TOWN YPSILANTI  
 \*\*\*\*\*

Eat in or carry out  
 Delicious fresh made to order sandwiches  
 Soup and Salad Bar

**THE DELI SHOPPE**  
 Delicatessen and Catering

In Historic Depot Town  
 17 East Cross St  
 Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197  
 483-3574

Catering by Bette Beck  
 Specializing in Wedding Receptions


**Hon's**  
**Flowers & Fancies**  
 46 E. CROSS • 482-2124  
 DEPOT TOWN YPSILANTI



## Rag Bag

Once again DepotTown Merchants have lots of bargains and new additions to their shops to offer in the month of October. Why not take this opportunity for a leisurely fall stroll through the neighborhood and see for yourself.

Between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. everyday THE DELI has breakfast for just 99¢! Choose of one: Biscuits and Country Gravy or Two Eggs and Toast or Old Fashioned Oatmeal and Toast. What a great way to start your day!

If you happen to be strolling on Sunday, drop off the kids at J & J PLASTER. Classes for kids are between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. Two dollars is the cost and includes everything needed.

Next door, WHEN IN DOUBT has developed specials to meet all your stationary needs. Selected cards are now 4/\$1.00, and you can save 50% on selected note cards. In addition they have a Tuesday Special of ¼ pound of "Stationary by the Pound" for only \$1.00.

If the Depot Town spirit has caught you and you're in the mood to strip, (or have something stripped) DEPOT EXCHANGE has recently acquired a stripping rank which will meet all your stripping requirements.

Don't forget Sweetest Day, October 15.

HONS will have Sweetheart Roses on special for your favorite person. Call 482-2124 or stop in for details.

A new addition to the block is a salad bar at THE OLD TOWN RESTAURANT. It has everything from Apple Sauce to alfalfa Sprouts for \$2.99. If you team it up with your favorite sandwich it's only \$2.35.

MILLER'S ICE CREAM will be featuring happy hour through out the month of October. Stop by any week day between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. and get a double dip cone for the price of a single. Between the 10th and 15th bring your special person in for a Love Boat Sundae for Sweetest Day only \$2.29. Starting October 16 The Midnight Sundae will be the feature for Halloween at just \$1.39.

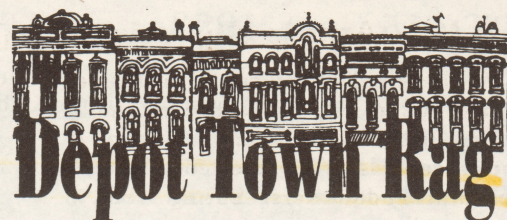
After a visit to Rosemary's Corner you will be sure to say, "I wish I could do that!" and you can! Rosemary is offering a variety of workshops and classes starting in October. Stained Glass class begins on Oct. 4 and Oct. 8. Evening workshops from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. include Cross Stitch Oct. 6, Candlewick Oct. 13 Stenciling Oct. 20, Band Boxes Oct. 27. Call 485-4994 for registration and additional details.

*Leave your monthly special with Sally Richie at Miller's Ice Cream and it will appear in the November RAG.*

Christmas Cards you probably won't send to Mom...  
Other gift items "most appropriate"!

**When In Doubt, Inc.**  
CARDS AND GIFTS

23 E. Cross St., Ypsilanti 483-1448  
in historic Depot Town  
10-6 Mon. thru Fri. 10-5 Sat



A publication of the Depot Town Association, Inc., a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation dedicated to preserving the unique character of the neighborhood and to the enhancement of its business climate.

Carolyn McKeever, president  
(DTA: The caboose, 400 Market Place, Ypsilanti, MI 48197)

Annual dues:

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Associate member .....  | \$10  |
| Regular member .....    | \$25  |
| Sustaining member ..... | \$100 |

Jim MacDonalds Apple Annies

**ANTIQUES**  
Functional Antiques  
Vintage Clothing

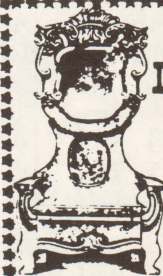
29 E. Cross Tues.-Sat. 12 - 6  
481-0555

**Something Special** Bridal Gowns, Party Dresses  
Suits, Coats, Lingerie  
Costumes

Alterations for men or women.  
32 E. Cross 484-0475

Hrs. Tues. thru Fri. 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Evenings & Sat. by appointment

in Depot Town



**DEPOT EXCHANGE**  
ANTIQUES

54 E. Cross St. (near tracks)  
Depot Town  
Ypsilanti, Mich 48197

WE BUY, SELL & TRADE  
482-1780

**Jacqueline's Boutique**  
25 E. Cross St.  
Depot Town  
Ypsilanti, Mi  
483-8150

Gently Used  
Women's Clothes  
10-5 Tue. - Fri.  
10 - 4 Sat.

**Vintage Passion**

Specializing in Unusual & Different

**COSTUME JEWELRY**

Featuring fabulous rhinestones

**Vintage Clothing**

"You've got to see it  
to believe it!"

310 River Street  
Historic Depot Town



## DTA 15 Sept. 1983

ERIC WARD was introduced as the UM intern working for the Historic Depot Town Foundation. He will be working in the Caboose on tax records on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

President McKeever reported a \$1600 loss on the Heritage Jazz Competition, and a \$500 profit on the Great Train Race.

The Frog Island electric drop for the June Festival cost \$1800, shared equally with WEMU, our co-sponsors. At Heritage Festival it was broken into and used by the Circus for three days. John Barr, who represents the Boy Scout sponsors of the circus has offered \$100 after the fact to pay for use and electricity. Action was tabled until we can meet with WEMU, Edison, and others.

Ike Rednour is in the hospital.

The DTA voted to join the Washtenaw Council for the Arts.

Treasurer and Secretary were absent and their reports were not given, but McKeever reported \$1300 in the Concessions account and \$950 in the General Fund.

DTA voted to permit the Ypsilanti Players use of the Caboose for a story hour for children on Saturday mornings from nine until noon.

The Depot Town RAG reported themes for next month, solicited help with RAGTIME and the RAG BAG, and reported a complaint from one of our businesses regarding the "Curtains" article in September.

The Caboose windows have been fixed and the \$36 remaining in that collection will go toward installing a 110 volt line for an air conditioner in the cupola.

Depot Town will participate in the Apple Harvest Home Tour on October 9th.

Detroit Edison Company has responded to our concern for PCB's in the area since the August 27 transformer explosion in the neighborhood and have taken samples to their lab. Although no capacitors were involved and the transistors were changed to mineral water a year ago, they will check for PCB's and report to DTA.

The BEST YET award was given to Carolyn McKeever upon her retirement from serving three years as DTA president, the GOLDEN GOOSE to the Soviet Union.

No nominations were made from the floor and a unanimous ballot was cast for the following officers for next year - President; Rex Richie, Vice President; John Waite, Secretary; Tom Dodd, Treasurer; Sue Freund.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

### THE DEPOT TOWN ASSOCIATION

is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation dedicated to preserving the unique character and history of the Depot Town area and to ensuring the economic growth and stability of the areas. Help support Depot Town and receive the "RAG" at your home.

Cut out and mail to: D.T.A. 400 Market Place, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Associate membership \$10.00

\_\_\_\_ Business/Property \$25.00

\_\_\_\_ Sustaining \$100.00

JOIN THE D.T.A. THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

**Rosemary's**  
NEEDLE ARTS and  
HANDCRAFTS  
15 E. CROSS  
YPSILANTI, MICH. 48197  
(313) 485-4994

Corner

**Depot Mailbox**  
POSTAL BOX RENTALS  
MESSAGE SERVICES  
15 E. CROSS  
YPSILANTI,  
MICHIGAN  
485.4994



## Holiday Artists' Market

More than forty selected artists have been invited to participate in the Sunday, December 4 event at the Freight House from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. This is the third annual holiday event and will be one of several events heralding the opening of Depot Town's Victorian holidays.

Coffee and music will emanate from the coffee shop and one of the classiest exhibitions of the area's arts and crafts will be offered at prices most reasonable and tantalizing.

Coordinators for the annual event are Judy Andrews, set-up artists and posters; Nancy Cudney, entertainment, advertising and promotion; Mable Feese, treasurer and promotion; Richard Rice, advertising and promotion.

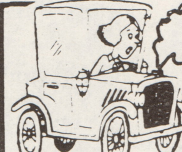
Invited artists must submit their \$25 entry fee and press release information to Mable Feese (c/o Holiday Artist's Market, 2817 Cumberland, Ann Arbor, Mi 48194) by October 17.

For further information call nancy Cudney  
For further information call Nancy Cudney at (313) 482-4688.

*Congratulations and my compliments to all who made this past weekend (Heritage Festival) such an enjoyable one for so many. I was unaware of how much is offered for the public's enjoyment. Enclosed please find a check for twenty dollars, ten of which is for my overdue Associate Membership which I'm sorry about overlooking for so long, and the other ten for you to use as you see fit within the Association. Thanks again for an enjoyable weekend!*

Sincerely, Kathe Stears

CUT  
HER



**CITY  
RADIATOR**  
11 E. CROSS  
HISTORIC DEPOT TOWN  
483-2248

**Esquire**

**INTERIORS**  
WINDOW TREATMENT  
SPECIALISTS

**50% OFF VERTICAL  
BLINDS**

We discount all types of INSULATED WINDOW  
TREATMENTS • CUSTOM MADE DRAPES and  
BEDSPREADS • MINI-BLINDS • WOVEN  
WOODS • CARPETING and  
WALLPAPER

10 E. CROSS 482-6338